



DEPARTMENTS OF THE ARMY AND THE AIR FORCE  
NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU  
1411 JEFFERSON DAVIS HIGHWAY  
ARLINGTON, VA 22202-3231

NGB-ARH

7 JUN 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ADJUTANTS GENERAL OF ALL STATES, PUERTO RICO, GUAM, THE VIRGIN ISLANDS AND THE COMMANDING GENERAL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

SUBJECT: Afghanistan and Iraq Campaign Medal Implementation Guidance (NGB-ARH Policy Memo # 05-044)

1. References:

- a. AR 600-8-22, Military Awards, 25 February 1995.
- b. MILPER Message, subject: Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal and Global War on Terrorism Service Medal-Implementing Instructions, 17 March 2004.
- c. Public Law 108-234, 28 May 2004 and Executive Order 13363, 29 November 2004.
- d. MILPER Message, subject: Afghanistan Campaign Medal and Iraq Campaign Medal-Implementing Instructions, 15 April 2005.

2. The Public Law outlined in reference (c) above established two new medals for members of the United States Armed Forces who serve or have served in the countries of Afghanistan and Iraq in support of Operations Enduring Freedom (OEF) and Iraqi Freedom (OIF).

3. Effective 30 April 2005, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (GWOTEM) is no longer authorized to be awarded for service in Afghanistan and or Iraq. However, the GWOTEM is still authorized for service in the other geographical areas of eligibility, as outlined below;

- a. Algeria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Chad, Georgia, Hungary, Kosovo.
- b. Only specific GWOT operations not associated with operations qualifying for the Kosovo Campaign Medal- Mali, Mauritania, Nigeria, Turkey, Uganda, and the Mediterranean Sea ("boarding and searching" vessel operations).

(1) Service members qualified for the GWOTEM by reasons of service between 24 October 2001 and 30 April 2005, in Afghanistan, shall remain qualified for the medal.

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Any such Soldier may be awarded the Afghanistan Campaign Medal (ACM) in lieu of the GWOTEM for such service. Additionally, any Soldier authorized the arrowhead device may be awarded the ACM with arrowhead device in lieu of the GWOTEM with arrowhead device. No Soldier shall be entitled to both medals for the same act, achievement or period of service.

(2) Service members qualified for the GWOTEM by reasons of service between 19 March 2003 and 30 April 2005, in Iraq, shall remain qualified for the medal. Any Soldier may be awarded the Iraq Campaign Medal (ICM) in lieu of the GWOTEM for such service. Additionally, any Soldier authorized the arrowhead device may be awarded the ICM with arrowhead device in lieu of the GWOTEM with arrowhead device. No Soldier will be entitled to both medals for the same act, achievement or period of service.

4. Under no condition will Soldiers receive more than one of the following; the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Kosovo Campaign Medal, ACM, ICM, or GWOTEM for the same act, time period or service.

5. Implementing criteria for Afghanistan Campaign Medal.

a. Authorized to be awarded to Soldiers who deploy to Afghanistan in direct support of OEF on or after 24 October 2001 to a date to be determined or the cessation of OEF.

b. The area of eligibility encompasses all land area of the country of Afghanistan and all air spaces above the land.

c. To be eligible for the ACM, a Soldier must be assigned or attached to a unit participating in OEF for 30 consecutive days or for 60 nonconsecutive days in Afghanistan or meet one of the following criteria:

(1) Be engaged in actual combat against the enemy and under circumstances involving grave danger of death or serious bodily injury from enemy action, regardless of the time in Afghanistan.

(2) While participating in OEF or on official duties, regardless of time, is killed or wounded/injured requiring medical evacuation from Afghanistan.

(3) While participating as a regularly assigned air crewmember flying sorties into, out of, within, or over Afghanistan in direct support of OEF; each day that one or more sorties are flown IAW the criteria shall count as one day towards the 30 consecutive or 60 nonconsecutive day requirement.

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d. Only one award of the ACM may be authorized for any individual. Service stars are not prescribed.

6. Implementing criteria for Iraq Campaign Medal.

a. Authorized to be awarded to Soldiers who deploy to Iraq in direct support of OIF on or after 19 March 2003 to a date to be determined or the cessation of OIF.

b. The area of eligibility encompasses all land area of the country of Iraq, and the contiguous water area out to 12 nautical miles, and all air spaces above the land area of Iraq and above the contiguous water area out to 12 nautical miles.

c. To be eligible for the ICM, a Soldier must be assigned or attached to a unit participating in OIF for 30 consecutive days or for 60 nonconsecutive days in Iraq or meet one of the following criteria:

(1) Be engaged in actual combat against the enemy and under circumstances involving grave danger of death or serious bodily injury from enemy action, regardless of the time in Iraq.

(2) While participating in OIF or on official duties, regardless of time, is killed or wounded/injured requiring medical evacuation from Iraq.

(3) While participating as a regularly assigned air crew member flying sorties into, out, within, or over Iraq in direct support of OIF; each day that one or more sorties are flown IAW the criteria will count as one day towards the 30 consecutive or 60 nonconsecutive day requirement.

d. Only one award of the ICM may be authorized for any individual. Service stars are not prescribed.

7. Both the ACM and ICM may be awarded posthumously to any Soldier who lost his/her life while, or as a direct result of, participating in qualifying operations, without regard to length of such service, if otherwise eligible.

8. In order of precedence the ACM will be worn before the ICM and both shall directly follow the Kosovo Campaign Medal (KCM) (i.e., KCM, ACM, ICM, GWOTEM, etc.).

9. Effective immediately, Battalion Commanders and Commanders of separate units are authorized to award the ACM and/or ICM to qualified personnel. Permanent orders are not required.

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10. States MILPOs will validate the wear of the award and to ensure Soldier's records are updated. State records custodians must ensure that if the ACM and/or ICM are awarded, the GWOTEM is removed from the Soldier's records in accordance with paragraphs 3b (1) and (2) above.

11. Soldiers who retired or were discharged in the past 90 to 120 days will submit request for award of the ACM and/or ICM to Commander, US. Army Human Resources Command, ATTN: AHRC-PDO-PA, 200 Stovall Street, Alexandria, VA 22332-0471. Request should include a copy of the DD Form 214 and any supporting documents to substantiate service. Where appropriate, the ACM and/or ICM will be added to and the GWOTEM will be removed from the DD Form 214 by issuance of a DD Form 215 (Correction to DD Form 214, Certificate of Release of Discharge from Active Duty) as outlined in this policy.

12. Soldiers who retired or were discharged over 120 days will submit their request to the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC), in St. Louis, MO 63132-5100. Request should include supporting documentation to substantiate service.

13. Send questionable cases through channels to National Guard Bureau, NGB-ARH-S, 1411 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202-3231 for final determination.

14. Effective FY06 promotion cycle, award 12 promotion points for each award of the GWOTEM, ACM and/or ICM.

15. The point of contact for this memorandum is SGM Greg W. Heffner at (703) 607-3453 or DSN 327-3453.



ROBERT P. ROGERS  
GS-15, National Guard Bureau  
Chief, Personnel Policy  
and Readiness Division